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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 20, 2018

City, Chamber seeking nominations for 2018 Sterling Edge Awards to recognize outstanding local businesses

STERLING HEIGHTS – The city of Sterling Heights and the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry are seeking nominations for the seventh-annual Michigan Week Business

MEDIA RELEASE



Expo & Sterling Edge Awards Luncheon recognizing outstanding businesses in Sterling Heights.

Nomination applications, due Friday, March 23, 2018 can be submitted online at shrcci.com or sterling-heights.net. The Sterling Edge awards seek to recognize Sterling Heights area companies that have demonstrated best business practices that can be adopted and emulated by other businesses. Any outstanding Sterling Heights business, whether an inspiring start-up, a long-standing corporate entity, a great place to work or other, is eligible to win one of this year's five awards. This year's award categories include:

- Legacy Partner of the Year: This award is given to a business that has at least a decade of experience operating in Sterling Heights. This award looks to honor those that have committed their business to our City and have seen years of success and community support. The City and Chamber very much believe in recognizing businesses that have made Sterling Heights their home.
- Advanced Manufacturing Business of the Year: This award is given to a manufacturer that has proven to be a success in the Sterling Heights manufacturing corridor. The City and Chamber place incredible value on our manufacturing partners, as these businesses bring dozens if not hundreds of jobs and serve as the sturdy backbone of our region. As technology advances, we're proud that our manufacturers continue to lead in their respective arena and help cement Sterling Heights as a place where industry can thrive.

- **Community Re-investment Business of the Year:** This award is given to a business that has recently re-invested in itself, whether that means physically expanding, renovating existing or growing staff to meet changing needs. The City and the Chamber value businesses that show commitment to Sterling Heights by innovating their current space or employee base.
- **Dream Big Company of the Year**: This award is given to a business that started from a unique idea or humble beginnings into something that has become essential to the community. Dream Big Company of the year had to take chances and "think big" when putting in the incredible effort to get a business off the ground and running. This award celebrates the entrepreneur, innovator, and big dreamer who chose to open his or her business in Sterling Heights.
- **Community Partner of the Year:** This award is given to a business that prides itself on giving back to the Sterling Heights area. A community partner is a business that knows that being a part of the fabric of a community is paramount to success. This type of business is continually looking for ways to get involved and immerse itself in the livelihood of the city.

Another new element of the 2018 awards will be a "Local Business of the Year" award given to one of the five recipients. Judges will choose the individual category winners, and then decide which of the winners deserves the designation as best in show for 2018. The winner of this award will be a surprise and will be announced after all the category awards are presented.

The awards will be presented at the Michigan Week Business Expo & Sterling Edge Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, May 16. The event will be held at Villa Penna., 43985 Hayes Road in Sterling Heights.

Last year's winners included Jovan's Steakhouse (Local Business of the Year), Dirty Paws Lounge (Dream Big Company of the Year), Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. (Blue Ribbon Comnpany of the Year), Macomb County Chiropractic PC. (Community Partner of the Year) and AGS Automotive (Manufacturer of the Year).

For more information, contact the city's Community Relations Department at (586) 446-CITY (2489) or the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry at (586) 731-5400, extension 13.